

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week following
Sexagesima (February 12th – February 18th)*

CATECHETICAL THEME:

The Priesthood of All Believers

This Week's Catechetical Theme: The Priesthood of All Believers

Each week we prepare for the Divine Service by confessing our sin; by pleading guilty before God and one another. And as we confess our sin God, who is faithful and just, keeps His promise to forgive our sin and cleanses us from all unrighteousness. He renews us in the righteousness we first received in Holy Baptism, and which is still proclaimed to us in the Gospel on account of the perfect sacrifice Jesus made on the cross for all sin. Having been the recipient of such unending mercy and love, how can we withhold such mercy from those who trespass against us? This week's catechetical material reminds us that we who are forgiven are blessed also to forgive.

Invocation: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Ten Commandments & The Apostles' Creed

The Catechism: *What is the Office of the Keys?*

The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

Daily Readings	Catechetical Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	The Parable of the Sower Luke 8:4-15		Psalm 54
Monday	Blessed Are the Forgiven Psalm 32:1-5	Exodus 24	Psalm 55
Tuesday	The Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:7-15	Exodus 25	Psalm 56
Wednesday	The Unforgiving Servant Matthew 18:21-35	Exodus 26	Psalm 57
Thursday	Bearing with One Another Colossians 3:12-17	Exodus 27	Psalm 58

Friday	Love Your Neighbor as Yourself James 2:8-13	Exodus 28	Psalm 59
Saturday	1 Samuel 16:1-13	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Psalm 60

Questions to Discuss in the Home

Sun: Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon:** How will our sin affect us (see vv 3-4)? Should we hide our sin out of fear? What response to sin does this Psalm teach? What blessing is received? **Tues:** How does the Lord's Prayer affirm the teaching of the Parable of the Unmerciful Servant? What command/promise does Jesus speak at the end of this passage? **Wed** For how many sins did Jesus die on the cross? If Jesus died for all sins, can we limit forgiveness to any certain number? What does Jesus mean by 70 X 7? **Thurs:** How does his passage teach us to treat fellow Christians? How does verse 13 affirm Jesus teaching in the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant and the Lord's Prayer? **Fri:** How does this passage teach us to carry out the Law of God (v. 8). How does verse 13 affirm Jesus' command to forgive our brothers and sisters who sin against us? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

Memory Verse

Peter came up and said to (Jesus), "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seventy times, but seventy times seven." (Matt. 18:21-22)

In Our Prayers this Week

For Those Recovering from Surgery: Earl Schneider, Lynn Michael. **For Those Undergoing Medical Treatments:** Marla Corry, Beth Jones (daughter-in-law of Mike Jones), Joe Childress (father of David Childress), Beth Mayer (niece of Mia Zimmermann). **For Those in Need of Healing:** Alan Kleiboeker, Roger & Marilyn Sullens (father & mother of Linda Reckling). **For Those Who Are Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Barb Mueller, Sam Tepe (brother of Angie Siddell), Ariana Nolte, Randy Zimmermann, Connie Schilling. **Homebound Members:** Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken. **Baptismal Birthday:** Norman Kleiboeker (2/14), Brian Edwards (2/17), Norma Rueter (2/18).

The Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer From the Small Catechism

Hymn of the Week: Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide (LSB 585)